# NINE STEP PLANNER CLARK COUNTY WORK SESSIONS

This form needs to be reviewed and approved by the council **before** a work session is scheduled.

**REQUESTED BY:** Public Works, Clean Water Division

1. TOPIC: Clean Water Rate Study

**2. ATTENDEES**: Devan Rostorfer, Andrea Logue, Jeff Schnabel, Priya Dhanapal, Ken Lader

3. TIME FRAME:

LENGTH OF TIME NEEDED: 30 minutes

DESIRED DATE: 11/15/2023: alternates 11/8/2023 or

11/29/2023

SCHEDULED DATE OF WORK SESSION:

### 4. TIMING CONSIDERATIONS:

 The goal of this work session is to discuss council support for a consultant-led stormwater rate study prior to the 2024 budget hearing on December 5, 2023.

#### 5. DESIRED RESULTS:

- Hire a consultant in early 2024, to work with Clark County staff to identify appropriate stormwater rates as soon as fall 2024, no later than fall 2025.
- Raise stormwater rates and avoid the projected fund balance depletion of Clean Water Fund 4420 expected as early as 2026.

#### 6. IMPACTS (COMMUNITY/FINANCIAL/STAFF/OTHER):

- Failure to increase stormwater rates will require expense reductions in Clean Water's budget, which will impact staff across other Public Works divisions and ultimately impact the level of service provided to stormwater ratepayers in unincorporated Clark County.
- Clean Water Fund 4420 supports stormwater asset inventory, inspection, and maintenance; private storm facility maintenance compliance; capital planning and construction; public education and outreach; business pollution prevention; water quality monitoring; and, regulatory compliance.

#### 7. POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

 Reductions in the level of service provided by Clark County could result in noncompliance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase I Municipal Stormwater Permit, which causes legal risks for Clark County.

#### 8. ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED:

- Stormwater rates were last increased in 2015.
- Clark County's current stormwater fee rate is 180%-950% lower than rates charged by comparable jurisdictions.
- Clark County is preparing for new Phase I Permit requirements, which will become effective on August 1, 2024, for implementation through 2029.
- Clark County's Stormwater Code and Manual update, which drives all stormwater development regulations, is due to Ecology in June 2025 to become effective by July 2026.
- Since the last fee update in 2015, development in unincorporated Clark County has resulted in an 8% average annual increase in the number of stormwater facilities.

 Clean Water Division is preparing to implement new asset management programs to assess the condition of aging infrastructure, which could identify additional investment needs.

### 9. **RECOMMENDED ACTION**:

• Approve Public Works, Clean Water Division change request for a consultant-led stormwater rate study during the 2024 budget hearing on December 5, 2023.

Signature of requestor:		
Devan Kostorfer	DATE: 10/30/23	
Devan Rostorfer, Clean Water Division Manager		
Priya Dhanapal	DATE: 10/30/23	
Priya Dhanapal, Public Works Deputy Director	<u> </u>	

Sent: 10/30/2023 3:15:32 PM

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#### **Certificate Of Completion**

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Accepted: 10/30/2023 3:16:38 PM ID: d18812a9-678c-4643-aaa4-f61d7db26854

priya.dhanapal@clark.wa.gov

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Priya Dhanapal

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Priya Dhanapal

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Envelope Summary Events	Status	Timestamps
Envelope Sent Certified Delivered	Hashed/Encrypted Security Checked	10/30/2023 3:15:32 PM 10/30/2023 3:42:53 PM

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Required hardware and software

Operating Systems:	Windows® 2000, Windows® XP, Windows
	Vista®; Mac OS® X
Browsers:	Final release versions of Internet Explorer®
	6.0 or above (Windows only); Mozilla Firefox
	2.0 or above (Windows and Mac); Safariâ,,¢
	3.0 or above (Mac only)
PDF Reader:	Acrobat® or similar software may be required
	to view and print PDF files
Screen Resolution:	800 x 600 minimum
Enabled Security Settings:	Allow per session cookies

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